



# EMERGENCY NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center  
Camp Murray, Washington

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**For immediate release**

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## **Update: Okanogan fire cools off; federal assistance with costs approved**

CAMP MURRAY – With the fire that blazed through the community of Okanogan earlier this evening now cooling off, fire officials are turning back some of the resources that had been dispatched to the area through the State Fire Mobilization.

Firefighters from Douglas and Chelan counties will continue to Okanogan, but the Fire Protection Bureau of the Washington State Patrol has turned back crews that were en route from Clark and Grant counties, and the cities of Moses Lake, Tri Cities and Wenatchee. Total demobilization may come as early as tomorrow morning.

The State Fire Services Mobilization Plan was authorized at 4:58 p.m. Wednesday afternoon, and implemented by the Fire Protection Bureau with support from the state's Emergency Management Division at the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray.

Meanwhile, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved assistance for the cost of fighting the Okanogan fire under its Fire Management Assistance Grant Program.

At last report, the Okanogan fire had destroyed eight homes and scorched approximately 200 acres. No injuries were reported.

The state Department of Natural Resources requested assistance with firefighting costs shortly after the Okanogan fire began at approximately 3 p.m. Wednesday afternoon.

FEMA's Fire Management Assistance program will reimburse fire agencies for up to 75 percent of the cost of suppressing fires that:

- Put life, homes critical infrastructure and watersheds in imminent danger;
- Must be fought with limited local and state fire resources;
- Occur under high fire danger conditions; and
- Have the potential for major economic impact.

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